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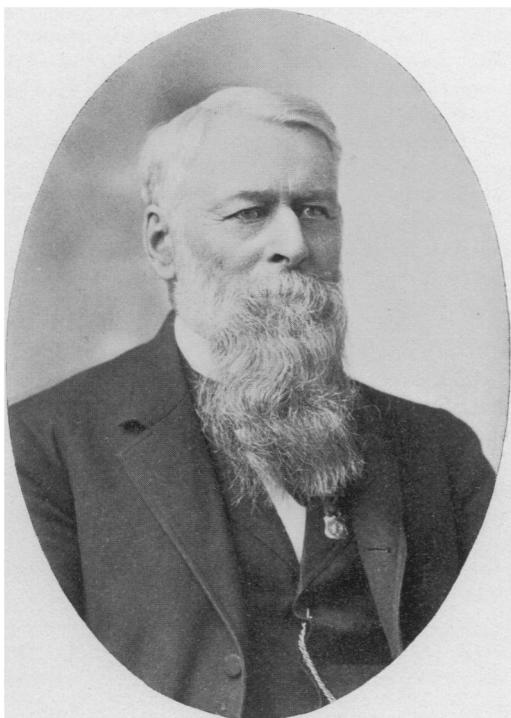
COL. WILLIAM TWEEDDALE,

Civil and hydraulic engineer, and for many years city engineer of Topeka, was born in Beith, Ayrshire, Scotland, in 1823, and came to this country with his parents when nine years of age. He entered the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, N. Y., in 1850, and graduated as a civil engineer in the class of 1853. After one year's practice in railway construction, he returned to the institution as instructor in field-work. In 1855 he removed to Chicago, where he engaged as a bridge engineer and contractor.

At the outbreak of the civil war he raised a company of volunteer engineers at Dubuque, Iowa, and was subsequently breveted colonel of volunteers for his services in the "march to the sea" campaign. In the New Madrid campaign he was in command of the expedition; designed the appliances and successfully constructed the New Madrid canal, which resulted in the reduction of Island No. 10. After the evacuation of Corinth he was given charge of the opening and maintenance of military railways. At Vicksburg he cut a canal by cutting down trees and sawing off the stumps four and a half feet below the surface of the water, through bayous, for the passage of transports from Ducksport to New Carthage, a distance of twenty-five miles. During the siege he was at Haines bluff, in charge of the construction of fortifications in the rear of the army, and in the campaign from Atlanta to Washington had charge of the bridge train for the army of the Tennessee.

In 1867 he removed to Topeka, where he engaged in the practice of engineering and as contractor for public buildings. Through his recommendation the Melan arch bridge spanning the Kansas river was erected. He was first elected to membership in the Kansas Academy of Science in 1872, and had been more or less active in it to the day of his death.

At the time of his death he was engaged in introducing his patented process for the softening and purification of water, to the perfection of which he had devoted thirty years of research and experiment. Among the last work of his life was the preparation of a paper on "The Softening and Purifying of Water by the Tweeddale Process," which was read before the Academy of Science at its annual meeting at McPherson, December 29, 1899. Colonel Tweeddale died in Topeka, November 4, 1900, at the age of seventy-seven years. He leaves a wife and one daughter (Mrs. W. C. F. Reichenbach).



COL. WILLIAM TWEEDDALE.